

**VULPIA OCTOFLORA (WALTER) RYDBERG VAR. TENELLA  
(WILLDENOW) FERNALD: THE CORRECT NAME FOR  
WHAT HAS BEEN CALLED VULPIA OCTOFLORA (WALTER)  
RYDBERG VAR. GLAUCA (NUTTALL) FERNALD**

**Kelly W. Allred**

Department of Animal & Range Sciences  
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003  
kallred@nmsu.edu

*Phytologia* 90(3): 414-415 (December, 2008).

When Nuttall published *Festuca tenella* Willdenow var. *glauca* Nuttall (Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. 5:147. 1837), the autonym var. *tenella* was created (Articles 26.3 & 32.6, *ICBN* 2000). The var. *tenella* has priority over the name (var. *glauca* Nuttall) that created it (Article 11.6, *ICBN*). If these two taxa are merged taxonomically and the names synonymized, as done by Lonard (1974, 2007) and nearly all subsequent workers, then the correct name and synonymies for this taxon at the varietal rank are as follows:

***Vulpia octoflora* (Walter) Rydberg var. *tenella* (Willdenow) Fernald, Rhodora 47:107. 1945.**

*Festuca tenella* Willdenow var. *tenella*, Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. 5:147. 1837, created by the publication of *Festuca tenella* Willdenow var. *glauca* Nuttall. *Vulpia tenella* (Willdenow) Heynhold, Nom. 1:854. 1840. *Festuca octoflora* Walter var. *tenella* (Willdenow) Fernald, Rhodora 34:209. 1932.

*Festuca tenella* Willdenow var. *glauca* Nuttall, Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. 5:147. 1837. *Festuca octoflora* Walter var. *glauca* (Nuttall) Fernald, Rhodora 34:209. 1932. *Vulpia octoflora* (Walter) Rydberg var. *glauca* (Nuttall) Fernald, Rhodora 47:107. 1945.

LITERATURE CITED

- ICBN: International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (St Louis Code).  
2000. Regnum Vegetabile 138. Koeltz Scientific Books,  
Königstein.
- Lonard, R.I. and F.W. Gould. 1974. The North American species of  
*Vulpia* (Gramineae). Madroño 22(5): 217-230.
- Lonard, R.I. 2007. *Vulpia*, pp. 448-454. IN: Barkworth, M.E. et al., eds.  
*Magnoliophyta: Commelinidae* (in part): *Poaceae*, part 1. Flora of  
North America North of Mexico, volume 24. Oxford University  
Press, New York and Oxford.